



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce
Development



Invite you to a **LABOR LAW CLINIC!**

● March 23, 2005 (Wednesday)
● 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

● Cranberry Lodge
● Tomah, WI

Here's What's on the Program:

8:00 a.m. Registration/Check-in
8:30 a.m. - (sharp) Kickoff
8:45 a.m. - "Deciding Who's Eligible for Unemployment Insurance Benefits" -
Melissa Montey
10:00 a.m. - (Approx.) Break
10:15 a.m. - "You Be the UI Judge" - Jeff Hansen
11:45 a.m. - Lunch
12:30 p.m.- "Preparing for your Labor and Industry Review Commission Appeal" -
Jim Pflasterer
1:15 p.m.- (Approx.) Break
1:30 p.m. - "Understanding the Principles of Workers Compensation" -
Jim O'Malley
2:45 p.m. - Wrap-up, Adjournment

Time? Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Program begins at 8:30 a.m. Lunch is at 11:45 a.m.

What's the Cost? \$77 per person. Substitutions allowed. **PRICE INCLUDES:** continental breakfast, refreshments, and lunch; handouts for all presentations on the agenda, plus other DWD handouts.

Site? Cranberry Lodge, 311 Wittig Road Drive, Tomah, WI 54646 (608) 374-2801

HERE'S HOW TO REGISTER Complete and return the form that appears below. Seating is limited so early advance registration is recommended. No discounts allowed for multiple reservations, missed meals, etc.
Note: Last day for refunds or cancellations is March 16, 2005. Registrations not canceled by this date shall be subject to full payment of the registration fee. Contact Workforce Connections, Inc at (608) 789-5613 if you wish to confirm that your registration was received or to cancel. Please keep all of the above information for future reference and return only the reservation form below.

PLEASE RESERVE _____ SEATS at the Tomah Labor Law Clinic at \$77 each for a total of \$_____.
(Enclose full payment if paying by check or money order. Make checks to: **Workforce Connections, Inc**

Name(s) 1. _____ 3. _____
2. _____ 4. _____

Company/firm
Name _____

St. Address (P.O. Box) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

TO REGISTER: Mail this form to: **Workforce Connections, Inc, Attn: Labor Law Clinic Coordinator, P.O. Box 2908, La Crosse, WI 54602-2908 OR** Fax to **Carol Wagenson** at (608) 785-9939. If faxing, please mail payment separately to the address shown above. **Choose only ONE reservation method.**

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Here's what will be covered:

UCD-11525-P (R. 03/23/2005)

8:45 a.m. “Deciding who’s Eligible for UI Benefits” This topic provides an overview of the primary issues which can affect employee UI eligibility and employer liability. Among the topics discussed are discharges, quits, offers of work, work available, and how the terms “able to work” and “available for work” are defined by UI. This is an opportunity to ask, and get answers to, questions about how and why UI benefits are paid.

10:15 a.m. . “You Be The Unemployment Insurance Judge” This review of actual contested UI case summaries allows those in the audience to decide how they would rule if they were the Administrative Law Judge in these cases involving discharges, quits, suspensions due to physical conditions, and miscellaneous specialty areas. Cases chosen and session led by an experienced UI Administrative Law Judge.

12:30 p.m. “Preparing for your LIRC Appeal” Covers the basics of presenting your case to the Commission (a separate state agency), including preparing the petition for review, requesting the opportunity to present written arguments, and making your written argument most effective. Identifies resources for finding precedent-setting cases. Summarizes Commission’s internal operating procedures and the steps from petition for review to decision. Describes process for appealing to court from adverse commission decision.

2:00 p.m. “Understanding the Principles of Workers Compensation” Focuses on two basic areas: 1) an overview of the key principles which underlie the WC system; 2) practical, useful ideas for employers to implement in handling WC claims. Practical advice is given on receiving employee accident reports, communicating with insurance carriers, investigating reports of work injuries, and steps to follow when presenting evidence on behalf of employers at hearings.

Here are your presenters:

MELISSA MONTEY has been with the Unemployment Insurance Division since 1996. She has worked as an adjudicator and is currently employed by the division as a Disputed Claims Analyst. In that capacity she helps develop the laws and policies for Unemployment Insurance, trains adjudicators, evaluates decisions using state and federal guidelines, provides technical assistance on complex claims, acts as an expert witness in UI appeals hearings, and responds to inquiries from employers, claimants and the legislature. She is a 1996 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Parkside with a BS degree in Psychology.

JEFF HANSEN is an Administrative Law Judge with the Department of Workplace Development. He conducts unemployment insurance eligibility hearings and issues written decisions to the parties. He served in that capacity from 1976 to 1981 and again beginning in 2002. He is a graduate of St. John’s University in Minnesota and the University of Wisconsin Law School. In addition to a year in private practice, he has served as assistant city attorney for the City of Eau Claire and worked in the court system for Eau Claire County.

JAMES PFLASTERER supervises the staff of 14 attorneys who assist Labor and Industry Review Commissioners in deciding cases and defending LIRC unemployment insurance decisions in court. LIRC decides appeals from decisions of administrative law judges in unemployment insurance, worker’s compensation and equal rights cases. Jim received his B.S. in English from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1966 and his law degree from the UW in Madison in 1969. Before joining LIRC in 1980, he served as Deputy UI Legal Affairs Director and as a UI hearing examiner. He has been active in the National Association of Unemployment Insurance Appellate Boards, serving as its president in 1993 and 1994.

JIM O’MALLEY Jim is the Director of the Bureau of Legal Services of the Worker’s Compensation Division. He had served as an Administrative Law Judge with the Worker’s Compensation Division since July 1984 and since October 1989 as a section chief. He earlier was an Unemployment Insurance Administrative Law Judge, from November 1976 to July 1984. He also served as a member of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions from 1991-93. He is a 1972 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse and received his law degree from St. Mary’s University in 1975.

Is this your first clinic?

THIS DAY-LONG CLINIC will include speakers from the Unemployment Insurance, Labor and Industry Review Commission, and the Workers Compensation Divisions of the Department of Workforce Development with detailed information and practical guidance to help employers avoid violating state laws and rules in the topic areas on the Clinic agenda. This educational program contains information that will help employers prepare for state agency hearings and other administrative proceedings, if they become necessary. There will be many opportunities to ask questions of the experts who administer the laws and programs.

THIS CLINIC IS DESIGNED TO BE OF MOST HELP to persons needing an initial orientation to these topics or who wish to reconfirm their understanding of the basics. It also is designed for those who have specific questions to ask the speakers about the basic or more complex aspects of the programs.

THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of services or in employment. If you need assistance in using this service, please contact us. Deaf, hearing- or speech-impaired callers may reach us through the Wis. Telecommunication Relay System (WisTRS).

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